

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Slepnev	Examiner: Horlick, K.
Serial No.: 10/719,185	
Filed: November 21, 2003	Group Art Unit: 1637
Entitled: Sampling Method and Apparatus for Amplification Reaction Analysis	
	Conf. No.: 3232

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

DECLARATION OF DR. VLADIMIR SLEPNEV UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.132

I declare:

1. I, Vladimir I. Slepnev, hold the position of Chief Scientific Officer at Primera BioSystems, Inc., Mansfield, MA.
2. I hold a Master's Degree in Chemistry from Moscow State University and a Ph.D. in Biochemistry from the Russian Research Center of Molecular Diagnostics and Therapy (Moscow, Russia). I have performed post-doctoral research at Institute Pasteur (France) and at Yale University (New Haven, CT), where I also worked as a junior faculty member. I am an author on 32 peer-reviewed literature publications. A copy of my Curriculum Vitae is attached.
3. I am an inventor on the above-noted U.S. patent application.
4. I have read the Final Office Action issued April 30, 2007 in the above-noted patent application, and I understand that the Examiner has rejected claims 1, 4-35 and 38-63 as being obvious over Wiesner (Nucleic Acids Research 20: 5863-5864) in view of Schumm et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,479,235), and claims 35 and 38-61 as being obvious over Wiesner et al. in view of Brenner (U.S. Patent No. 6,228,589) and Schumm et al. Specifically, the Examiner stated:

These claims are drawn to methods of quantitatively amplifying a plurality of nucleic acids, wherein an aliquot of the amplification mixture is dispensed or withdrawn at plural stages during the amplification regimen, further wherein at